

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:778
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
TEESTA HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT
BHIM PRASAD DAHAL

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government are aware of the differences between NHPC and people of Sikkim with regard to Teesta Hydro-Electric Project, Stage-V;
- (b) if so, the action being taken by the Union Government in this regard;
- (c) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards deteriorating peaceful atmosphere in Sikkim for this cause; and
- (d) if so, the action being contemplated to remedy the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (d) : The Teesta Hydro-electric Project Stage-V (510 MW) was sanctioned by the Government in January, 2000 at a cost of Rs.2198.04 crore. The project is being executed by National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) in the Central sector. There are no differences between NHPC and the people of Sikkim. The contracts for major work packages have been awarded and work is progressing as scheduled. 172 contracts have been awarded to local contractors and NHPC is enforcing the concomitant statutory requirements. NHPC is facing problems on account of the Sikkim National Transport's action in refusing entry to trucks not registered in Sikkim into the State. This is compelling NHPC to resort to transshipment at the border, which will result in avoidable extra expenditure, delay and would increase the risk of damage to goods. However, NHPC is taking steps to remedy the situation and the progress of work has not suffered.